

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/642,774

Examiner

Tod T. Van Roy

Applicant(s)

MAXIM ET AL.

Art Unit

2828

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to communications filed 05/22/2006.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-12,22-26 and 28-35.

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The examiner acknowledges the cancellation of claims 13-21 and the addition of claims 29-35.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-2, 4-12, 22-26, and 28-35 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 is believed to be allowable as a laser driver having the stated cascoded output switch, predriver, a resistor providing tail current to the cascoded devices and coupled with a feedback modulation control of the predriver, a common mode feedback circuit, and a cascode biasing circuit responsive to a power supply voltage, output bias, and modulation current, was not found to be taught in the prior art, or an obvious combination of the prior art. The examiner agrees with the applicant's arguments (see Remarks, 05/22/2006) that the stated tail current providing resistor of Tan is not clearly coupled to the feedback portion of the circuit. In addition, the examiner also agrees with the applicant that the common mode feedback circuit of Schuelke is not of the cascade circuit type. This differing diode driving type is not found to be an obvious combination with the cascade type circuit of Tan. Other prior art references such as Fischer (US 2003/0091077) taught similar circuit types but lacked essential elements such as common mode feedback as well as a tail current providing resistor.

Claims 2, and 4-12 are allowable as they depend from allowable claim 1.

Claims 22-26 and 28 are allowable for the reasons indicated in the previous office actions.

New claims 29 and 32 are allowable as they largely comprise the same limitations of claim 1, and in addition contain previously indicated allowable subject matter pertaining to a pulldown variance circuit.

Claims 30-31 and 33-35 are allowable as they depend from allowable claims 29 and 32.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

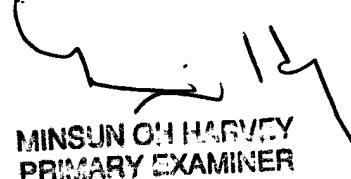
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tod T. Van Roy whose telephone number is (571)272-8447. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Minsun Harvey can be reached on (571)272-1835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TVR



MINSUN OH HARVEY
PRIMARY EXAMINER